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C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIJING 14062

USDOT PASS MARAD FOR ADMIRAL SHEAR

E. D. 12356: DECL; OADR

TAGS: EWWT, CH

SUBJECT: U.S.-CHINA MARITIME NEGOTIATIONS: CHINA AGREES

TO TEMPORARY EXTENSION

REF: STATE 243836

- 1. (CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.)
- 2. TONG WEIYUAN, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE DIVISION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BUREAU OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, SEPTEMBER 12, PERSONALLY HAND-DELIVERED TO EMBASSY A SIGNED COPY OF A LETTER SIGNED BY LIU YUNZHOU, DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF MARITIME TRANSPORTATION, AGREEING TO THE TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF THE MARITIME AGREEMENT AS PROPOSED BY ADMIRAL SHEAR IN HIS LETTER TO LIU OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1983.
- 3. LIU'S KEY STATEMENT, IN CHINESE AND VERIFIED BY EMBASSY TRANSLATION, READS: "I CONFIRM THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA CONSENTS TO THE CONTENTS OF YOUR LETTER." THE ENTIRE TEXT FOLLOWS IN PARAGRAPH 5. EMBASSY WILL CERTIFY ADMIRAL SHEAR'S LETTER TO LIU AND POUCH BOTH LETTERS TO THE DEPARTMENT PER REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS.
- 4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY IS PLANNING TO CONSULT WITH LIU WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 19 ON NEXT STEPS IN NEGOTIATIONS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER WASHINGTON THOUGHTS ON TIMING OF NEXT ROUND AND ON MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.
- 5. TEXT OF CHINESE LETTER TO ADMIRAL SHEAR. BEGIN TEXT: RESPECTED MR. ADMINISTRATOR,
- -- I HAVE THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 1983, THE CONTENTS OF WHICH FOLLOW:
- -- "I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING THE TEMPORARY EX-TENSION OF THE AGREEMENT OF MARITIME TRANSPORT, SIGNED SEPTEMBER 17, 1980, AND DUE TO EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1983.

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-- IF THE FOREGOING IS ACCEPTABLE TO YOUR GOVERNMENT, I HAVE THE HONOR TO PROPOSE THAT THIS LETTER AND YOUR REPLY SHALL CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT EXTENDING THE AGREEMENT ON MARITIME TRANSPORT WHICH WILL ENTER INTO FORCE ON THE DATE OF YOUR REPLY."

- -- I CONFIRM THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA CONSENTS TO THE CONTENTS OF YOUR LETTER.
- -- I AVAIL MYSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO YOU THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.
- -- LIU YUNZHOU (SIGNATURE), DIRECTOR OF BUREAU OF MARITIME TRANSPORTATION, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 10, 1983. END TEXT. HUMMEL

END OF MESSAGE

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